

Volume 2, Issue 3

July—September
2010Maricopa County
Animal Care and Control

Trailin' Tails Newsletter

Foster Families Needed to Care for Dogs and Cats



One of the many dogs that has passed through MCACC's doors looking for a forever home— he got one!

They are cute, small, and cuddly. They can also overwhelm a shelter. The time of year has arrived



when Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) receives hundreds of puppies and kittens each month. They can be days or even weeks old. And a shelter is not a good place for them. They can easily contract a disease and not survive. It is very important these animals get out of the shelter until they are bigger and stronger. They need to go to foster care.

Foster families play an important role for MCACC. They care for the kittens and puppies that are too young or small to be spayed or



neutered. Foster families care for dogs and cats that are not used to people and need to improve their

socialization skills to increase their chances of adoption. Foster families also care for ill dogs and cats while on medicine. If you have love and affection to spare, fostering may be for you.

If you are interested in becoming a foster family, please email wilsterd@mail.maricopa.gov for the west valley, or javiles@mail.maricopa.gov for the east valley. You can also call (602) 506-7387. You must attend a 2-hour orientation to become a foster family.

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Taking Education to the Streets

MCACC's Uno por Uno program has a new way to spread education. The Uno por Uno bus attracts quite a bit of attention. It's one more way to spread the word about the importance of spaying and neutering, licensing, and vaccinating. When the bus is in your community, the Community Outreach team could be holding a free rabies vaccination clinic or even a free spay/neuter clinic. So when you see the bus, stop by and see what's going on.





One of the many cats that have come through our doors needing a new home—he got one!

Veterinarian's Corner: Pet Allergies

You and your pet may have more in common than you think. Are you sneezy and itchy? Do your allergies drive you crazy? Well, your dog or cat can suffer from allergies as well. Signs include itchy skin, with or without red inflamed skin (this can be from inhaled allergens/food allergies), hives (bumps), asthma/bronchitis (cats), and vomiting with or without diarrhea or skin signs (food). Your pets can develop secondary bacterial and fungal skin infections as well as create severe wounds from scratch-



ing. Some animals may have clear ocular (eye) or nasal (nose) discharge. Allergy treatment depends on the cause, severity and any response to previous treatments. Do not give your pet antihistamines without consulting your veterinarian. Some products that are available for people contain ingredients that are considered toxins (such as caffeine) in animals. Though bathing would seem like a great idea (and it is - as long as the animal is thoroughly dried afterward), special shampoos may be needed due to the secondary infections. There are also prescription conditioners available for after shampooing (some of them are of the leave on variety) that decrease the itch. Please consult your veterinarian if you suspect that your pet is experiencing allergic disease.

The Veterinarian's Corner is written by Dr. Monika Durgin, MCACC's Chief Veterinarian.

Animal First Aid Kit:

- First Aid Book
- Gauze Pads
- Bandages
- Cotton Tipped Applicators
- Muzzle
- Cold Pack
- Antiseptic Wipes
- Disposable Gloves



Kokopelli Winery & Bistro in Chandler will be celebrating Christmas in July! In partnership with the 12 K's of Christmas, the Bistro will be hosting events the week of July 12th - 16th.

A portion of all items purchased that week will go towards Maricopa County Animal Care and Control. Just mention 12K's or MCACC. There will be many festive menu items, including Santa Paws Special, Miracle on Boston Street, Baked Alaska and lots of frozen drinks like the Kris Kringle.

Check out the 12K's of Christmas website for more information! www.12krun.com or call 480-609-3978.

Kokopelli Winery and Bistro 35 W. Boston Street, Chandler, AZ 85225 480-792-6927
www.kokopelliwinery.net

Employee Profile: Deputy Director

You can always tell if Nancy Harris is at work at Maricopa County Animal Care & Control (MCACC) before you even enter the building. Her animal-friendly license plate reflects her love for cats.



The self-described "crazy cat lady" is MCACC's Deputy Director and in-house cat rescuer. Over the years, Nancy has taken in cats who were sick, orphaned or had behavior problems, either in her office or her home, and they have lived "happily ever after," including B.B., a temperamental cat who resides permanently in Nancy's office.

Nancy's love of animals is what brought her to MCACC, but cat caretaking is not her actual job there. As Deputy Director, her duties encompass the finance, procurement, and human resources sections, as well as medical and community outreach. She also represents the agency when the Director, Dr. Rodrigo Silva, is unavailable.

Nancy's background is in accounting; in fact, she is a CPA in good standing. Much of what she does at MCACC is to carefully analyze and plan for the best ways to reach the agency's goals. Nancy is always exploring creative opportunities to raise money to meet the agency's ever-growing demands. For example, in 2002, she helped form Friends of Animal Care and Control (FACCs) as a non-profit

fundraising arm for MCACC because at the time, no county agency could directly solicit donations.

FACCs has been an effective partner ever since, and currently provides the money for MCACC's successful spay-neuter assistance program (SNAP), among others.

Nancy also guides the use of funds from other donations. Today, through the generosity of Valley pet owners, these contributions bring in an average of \$30,000 a month from dog license donations.

Nancy came to County Government in 1994 as the Financial Reporting Administrator in the County's Finance Department. She then served as Controller and Assistant Controller of Maricopa Medical Center from 1996 -2002. A colleague suggested that Nancy go to work for MCACC to fix their budget problems in 2002. She did, and has been working tirelessly for MCACC and the animals ever since.

Meeting the funding needs of the country's third largest animal care and control facility is an extremely important, and sometimes stressful, job, but Nancy is up to the challenge. For her, the real bottom line is not only about saving money, but also saving animals' lives.



One of the many dogs MCACC has taken in needing a forever home.

Donation Drive Helps Animals

The Lakes Women's Club held their fourth annual Lakes Community and Pet Supply Drive to benefit MCACC and its homeless pets. The women canvassed their neighborhood businesses for donations and placed donation bins around their community. They also held a one day donation drive. The community was kind to the animals. The Women's Club showed up at MCACC's west valley shelter with a moving truck full of supplies—dog beds, food, leashes, puppy training pads, kitty litter, toys, cleaning supplies, and so much more. The Women's Club even presented MCACC with a check for more than \$400. Every donation will go to aid the animals while they are housed at the shelter. MCACC is grateful for the hard work and generosity of the Lakes Women's Club and their community!



Spay and neuter your pets

Get your dogs and cats spayed or neutered! MCACC takes in over 55,000 animals a year, many of them unwanted kittens and puppies. These innocent animals have little chance of survival in our shelters—they need too much care. Please help us stop unnecessary euthanasia—spay and neuter your pets! SNAP, MCACC's Spay and Neuter Assistance Program, offers a free spay or neuter surgery for your cat or dog. Please visit us on the web at www.pets.maricopa.gov for more information.



MCACC took in over 55,000 dogs and cats last year. Please give one a good home!

Rabies Clinic

Specials: \$20

West and East Shelters

Sunday 11 - 5:30 p.m.

Tues - Thurs 9 - 11 a.m.

Blind Dog an Inspiration

Following is a story to remind us that life is only as bad as you make it:

"I love dogs. I started volunteering so I could help the shelter animals without bringing any home. My husband didn't want another dog either. We already had our dog Kaydee who was six years old and seemed perfectly content being the only dog. We had always talked about getting another one, but Kaydee is really picky about who she gets along with.



I try to take photos of all the animals at the shelter. A nice picture can help them get adopted. Last September, on my usual Wednesday night doing photos, I came across this dog named Spyder. He was an owner surrender and his plaque said "I'm Blind". He had just come in that day. He was a very nice dog. I went home and asked my husband "Do we need a blind dog?" Every Wednesday night I would say "Do we need a...." and this was the only time he said yes. I kind of dismissed it until the next day when he asked if we were going to go see the blind dog.

So on Thursday, we brought Kaydee down to the pound for a meet & greet. On the way there, we saw a Mitsubishi Spyder in front of us (what are the odds?). Our picky dog Kaydee, and Spyder got along fine. We were really concerned about having a blind dog, but a staff member that had a blind dog happened to be there that night and she told us all about her blind dog. We filled out the paperwork, renamed him Clarence, and I picked him up the next day after work.

When we brought him home, Clarence immediately learned the layout of the house. We took him to the ophthalmologist and she determined that both his retinas were torn during birth. He is completely blind, but you would never know it. Clarence chases Kaydee through the house, knows his way around, and even runs around the back yard without crashing into anything. The people at PetsMart's Doggie Day Camp are equally impressed. I cannot imagine why anyone would give this wonderful boy up but I am so thankful they did. He has given us so much joy." Kristen G.

Allstate Corporate Volunteer Day

On April 24, 2010, a group of wonderful Allstate Employees brought donations and helped us get our dogs and cats ready for another day at our West Valley Animal Care Center! These big hearted men and women provided much needed time out of the kennels and TLC that morning. They set these fur-kids up for success! So many of the dogs they walked were adopted that day! We are very grateful for the time and efforts of the Allstate Employees!



Roadhouse Run a Success

For the fourth year, Iguana Mack's Roadhouse has hosted a dog walk. Roadhouse Run is a dog-friendly, two-mile fun run/walk, followed by lunch and contests. This year, the event raised more than \$1800 for MCACC.

Alyssa Abraham, Iguana Mack's Marketing Director says, "Dogs are a big part of many people's lives. We're very involved in the community and want to help people with a variety of interests, so helping the animals at the county shelter is just another way Iguana Mack's can help improve and give back to the community. It's amazing how many of our regular customers have four legs and a tail!"

Iguana Mack's does more than the Run. They also have a Howl-o-ween Dog Costume Contest, and Holiday Photos with Santa Paws, not to mention, hosting MCACC's Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus throughout the year, helping homeless animals find homes!



If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit us at : www.pets.maricopa.gov



MCACC took in over 12,000 cats last year. Please give one a good home!

MCACC Needs Volunteers

There are many homeless animals in Maricopa County. With summer here, they need our help even more. Have you ever wondered how you can be of aid? Volunteer at Maricopa County Animal Care and Control! This is a great way to help our furry friends. There are many different ways to give back: become an adoption counselor and help the dogs and cats find their forever homes; take pictures of them for our website; socialize dogs and cats by walking and playing with them.

Besides volunteering at the shelter, you can help out at our mobile adoption events at various locations throughout the valley. You can become a foster parent and provide a temporary home for



an animal (or two) until they are ready to go up for adoption. If you are good with a sewing machine, you can cut down old comforters and sew them to make individual doggie and kitty beds.

Becoming a volunteer at MCACC is also a great place to meet people with the same love of animals. Everyone is working together to end the euthanasia of adoptable and treatable dogs and cats. For additional information

about MCACC or the volunteer program, please visit our website at www.pets.maricopa.gov. You can submit an online volunteer application and see a list of upcoming orientation dates. Help us save lives!

Dangerous Foods For Your Pet:

- Mushrooms
- Chocolate
- Macadamia Nuts
- Grapes
- Raisins
- Onions
- Garlic
- Coffee (any caffeine)
- Alcohol



One of the lucky cats to find a new home at MCACC this year.



Best Management Practices **Pet Waste**

Did you know that waste from pets can pollute our water?



Every time it rains, pet waste that is left on the ground can be washed into storm drains that carry it directly to our rivers and lakes without being treated.

When pet waste is disposed of improperly, not only does it affect water quality, but your health may be at risk.

- Pet waste decays, using up dissolved oxygen and releasing compounds that are harmful to fish and other animals.
- Pet waste may contain bacteria which can cause disease in humans
- Pet waste contains nutrients that can cause excessive algae growth, leading to cloudy or green water.

What can you do to prevent pollution?



- Pick up pet waste from your yard
- Carry disposable bags while walking your dog to pick up pet waste
- Dispose of pet waste by:
 - Flushing down the toilet
 - Throwing away in the trash



Maricopa County Environmental Services Department
Stormwater Quality Program
1001 N Central Ave., Ste 300
Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-372-1569
www.maricopa.gov/stormwater



Help us control the pet overpopulation problem. Get your pet spayed or neutered!



Call or email us and we'll bring the Mobile Pet Bus to your business or neighborhood!

602-506-8995

llong@mail.maricopa.gov

Ways to Help the Animals

While MCACC was originally founded for the purpose of catching and killing stray animals to prevent the spread of rabies and other diseases, the population growth in Maricopa County has resulted in an ever increasing number of healthy and treatable dogs and cats looking to MCACC to find them homes. As a "special revenue fund" within Maricopa County, MCACC is responsible for generating funds for both its mandated and non-mandated services.

By becoming a donor of your dollars, your time, or by holding a donation drive, you can help ensure that MCACC can provide the care and services that will ultimately make it possible to reach the goal of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets by 2012.

Please send me information about the following

◇ How to Volunteer

◇ How to Donate

◇ Information on: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

____ Yes, I would like to receive your email newsletter!

Mail to: MCACC Community Relations

2500 S. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009

Tune in and catch our animals on TV and the radio!

- *Every Saturday on Channel 12 at 8:35 a.m.*
- *Every other Thursday on Channel 12 at 1:35 p.m.*
- *Every last Tuesday of the month on KOOL radio 94.5 FM*
- *The 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month on Channel 15 at 11:00 a.m.*
- *You can also find them online at ktar.com*

Patience Pays Off for Scared Dog

Following is story from one dog's savior: "On April 13, 2007, while looking for a friend's lost greyhound, I adopted an "Irish Wolfhound" from your facility. He had been E-listed for 'extreme fear' and I had to get a supervisor's override in order to adopt him. He was so bad that the paperwork read "does not walk". When I picked him up, the vet tech asked me to come help remove him from his kennel as he wouldn't come out. On his way to the car, he darted back and forth like a cat on the leash, trying to hide under every vehicle. It was pretty clear that he was completely un-socialized.

Once home, he would hide by the back wall and refused to interact with me or anyone else. It took a couple of weeks, but he eventually learned to kennel up in his crate on command. We had to keep him away from our other dogs because he was sick and so submissive. It took about 5 months to integrate him into our pack. It took another four before we could bring him into the house.

Coming up on the three year mark, he's pretty normal. He's still skittish about some things (mainly, the sound of basketballs on pavement), but around the house and in the yard, he's great. I wanted you to know that sometimes the really hard cases come out ok. There were moments when I had thought I bit off more than I could chew, but fortunately he proved more resilient than I could have hoped for. " Aaron H.



Tito would not come anywhere near us when we first brought him home.



Tito is a healthy and happy boy today.



Save a life and become forever loved— come find your new furry friend at one of our shelters.



Visit one our Animal Care Centers!

West Valley Care Center
2500 S. 27th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Care Center
2630 W. 8th St.
Mesa, AZ 85201

Phone: 602-506-PETS (7387)

E-mail: ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov

We're on the web!

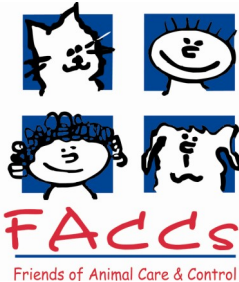
www.pets.maricopa.gov

MCACC's new approach to delivering animal care and control services reflects the delicate balance that exists between animal welfare and animal control. We strive to be proactive and offer programs to prevent problems before they occur. It is our vision to reduce the dangers and nuisances caused by irresponsible pet ownership and to protect pets from abuse, neglect and homelessness.

Our mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in Maricopa County.

MCACC offers a multitude of services to assist you and your pets:

- Adoption of cats and dogs
- Spay/Neuter programs
- Licensing
- Rabies vaccinations
- Lost and found shelter care
- Stray dog pick up
- Microchips
- Opportunities to volunteer and become foster care givers



Friends of Animal Care and Control

Our mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the special programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

P.O. Box 80739
Phoenix, AZ 85060

602-626-5073

Visit us at: www.azfaccs.org

Friends of Animal Care and Control Thrift Store

The FACCs thrift shop sells a wide variety of gently used items. Proceeds from the sales fund MCACC's valuable programs.



FACCs Thrift Shop

12625 N. Cave Creek Road (North of Thunderbird)

Phoenix, AZ 85022

602-923-6914

Store hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm

Tuesday and Thursday open until 6:00 pm

Do you love animals? Do you have some items that you'd like to donate to charity? Please donate them to the FACCs thrift shop! The store is currently accepting the following gently used items:

- Clothing, purses, jewelry, shoes
- Dishes, glassware, utensils
- Furniture - indoor and outdoor
- Books
- Tools
- Children's clothing and toys (no furniture or car seats please)
- Household items (lamps, linens, bedspreads)
- Kitchen and office appliances
- Computers, printers, software
- Artwork
- Cell phones, PDA's

For a large item (or large amount), call us to arrange a free pick up at (602) 996-7399.

FACC's mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

